however, was hemmed in by a multitude of restrictions which resulted in many injustices, especially to the common people.

One of the first acts of American rule was the organization of a judicial system, and in the Philippine Bill of 1902, Congress implanted in these Islands the same guaranties of constitutional and individual liberty that are found in the United States Constitution with the exception of the right to keep and bear arms and the system of trial by jury. A reorganization of the courts was effected and orderly procedure was provided for the trial of cases. In all criminal prosecutions, a speedy and public trial was guaranteed to the accused; his right to bail, to compulsory process of obtaining witnesses in his favor, to be assisted by counsel, and not to be compelled to be a witness against himself, was expressly recognized.

Today, we have a modern system of courts and judicial procedure. Conscientious efforts have been exerted during the last thirty-five years to guarantee to the people of these Islands a fair and impartial administration of justice. In line with this policy, there has been introduced recently a far-reaching innovation in the selection of judges. *I* refer to the organization of the Judicial Council, which has been functioning satisfactorily. Properly guided and directed, this Judicial Council should insure to the people of these Islands the appointment of competent judges selected primarily on merit.

In the field of penology, there have been introduced changes intended to aid the accused and to ameliorate the condition of those convicted by the courts of justice. I refer to the law providing for public defenders, the indeterminate sentence law, and the law creating the probation office which is now being organized.

Since the indeterminate sentence law went into effect in January, 1934, there has been marked improvement in the behavior and morale of prisoners. During the twenty-two months of its effectiveness, 645 prisoners have been given parole. Of those only three have violated their parole. The probation system, which will soon be in

operation, will complement the indeterminate sentence law. We have every reason to expect that these two institutions will be found eminently suited to the social conditions of these Islands, because the spiritual side of the Filipino character is especially receptive **to** the benign idea of reform.

CULTURAL DESTINIES

The cultural prospects of the Filipino people are full of promise. The racial and cultural differences of the Philippine population have